UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,300	02/26/2002	Naoki Tsuchitoi	03500.016242	2783

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FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER
HUNTSINGER, PETER K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 July 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5 and 11-22* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5 and 11-22* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/13/06

has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 7/13/06 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

The applicant argues on page 13 of the response in essence that:

Mori fails to disclose deleting the job at a specific time specified by the user.

a.   Mori disclose the user specifying a delete time (col. 4, lines 56-65). The

job is automatically deleted at the corresponding delete time.

Claim Objections

3.   Claim 22 is objected to because of the following informalities: The language

should be changed to "a selection step of enabling the user to select at ~~east~~ least one

print data from the list of print data displayed on the display panel." Appropriate

correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1-3, 5, 11-13, 15, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Arledge, Jr. et al. Patent 6,535,294 and further in view of Mori

Patent 6,089,765.

Referring to claims 1, 11, and 21, Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose a printer controller

for controlling printing of print data comprising: a storage unit to store the print data and

authentication information corresponding to the print data (Information Database 220 of

Fig. 2, col. 9, lines 59-67); an input unit adapted to enable a user to input authentication

information to print the print data (Fig. 5, col. 13, lines 15-23); a collation unit adapted to

collate the authentication information input by the user with the authentication

information stored in said storage unit (col. 13, lines 23-32); a display control unit

adapted to, after the user inputs the authentication information, display a list of print

data corresponding to the input authentication information on a display panel (Fig. 19,

col. 19, lines 1-13); a selection unit adapted to enable the user to select at least one

print data from the list of print data displayed on the display panel (col. 19, lines 11-13);

and a control unit adapted to control the printing of the selected print data to be

performed after confirming that a print charge for printing the print data selected by the

user is paid (col. 21, lines 15-32). Arledge, Jr. et al. do not disclose expressly deleting a

job at a user specified time. Mori discloses a determination unit adapted to determine,

at a specific time specified by the user, whether each of the print data stored in a

storage unit should be deleted; and a deletion unit adapted to delete each of the stored

print data if said determination unit determines that each of the stored print data should

be deleted (col. 4, lines 56-65). Arledge, Jr. et al. and Mori are combinable because

they are from the same field of printing systems. At the time of the invention, it would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to delete a job after a user

specified time. The motivation for doing so would have been to delete data that is no

longer needed to obtain free storage space. Therefore, it would have been obvious to

combine Mori with Arledge, Jr. et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1, 11,

and 21.

Referring to claims 2 and 12, Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose print data stored in said

storage unit, but do not disclose expressly assigning the print data a priority level. Mori

discloses wherein each print data stored in a storage unit is given a priority level, a

printer controller further comprising a deletion unit adapted to delete one of the stored

print data which is given a low priority level upon detecting that said storage means

cannot store the print data anymore (col. 4-5, lines 66-67, 1-10). Arledge, Jr. et al. and

Mori are combinable because they are from the same field of printing systems. At the

time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to assign a priority level to stored data. The motivation for doing so would have been to delete data that is less important when a storage unit is full. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Mori with Arledge, Jr. et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 2 and 12.

Referring to claims 3 and 13, Mori discloses wherein the print data which is given the low priority level means the print data which was received earlier than any other print data received by said printer controller (col. 4-5, lines 66-67, 1-10).

Referring to claims 5 and 15, Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose wherein said deletion unit determines that print data should be deleted if a predetermined period has passed after the print data is received by a print controller (col. 4, lines 56-65).

6.   Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arledge, Jr. et al. Patent 6,535,294 and Mori Patent 6,089,765 as applied to claims 2 and 12 and above, and further in view of Reifman et al. Patent 5,438,433.

Referring to claims 4 and 14, Mori discloses a deletion unit adapted to delete print data, but does not disclose expressly notifying a destination address when print data is deleted. Reifman et al. disclose notification means for notifying a destination address set up when an error occurs (col. 73, lines 64-67). Arledge, Jr. et al. in view of Mori are combinable with Reifman et al. because they are from the same field of printing systems. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary in the art to notifying a destination address when the print data is breached. The

motivation for doing so would have been to alert the user when print data is no longer

stored and available for printing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine

Reifman et al. with Arledge, Jr. et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 4 and

14.

7.   Claims 16-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Taniguchi et al. Patent 6,348,972 and further in view of Arledge, Jr. et al. Patent

6,535,294

Referring to claims 16 and 22, Taniguchi et al. disclose a data processing

method for providing a print service using an information processing apparatus for

storing the print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data, and

a printer, comprising: a first transmission step of transmitting authentication information

input by a user to print the print data from the printer to the information processing

apparatus (S610 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 24-27); a display step of displaying a list of print

data corresponding to the input authentication information on a display panel of the

printer(S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10); a third transmission step of transmitting at

least one print data selected by the user from the list of print data displayed on the

display panel from the information processing apparatus to the printer (S612 of Fig. 6,

col. 7, lines 34-39); a determination step of determining, at a specific time specified by

the user (col. 4, lines 43-49), whether each of the print data stored by the information

processing apparatus should be deleted; and a deletion step of deleting each of the

stored print data if said determination step determines that each print data should be

deleted (col. 10, lines 9-17). Taniguchi et al. do not disclose expressly displaying a list

of print data after the user inputs the authentication information and charging for

printing. Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose a second transmission step of transmitting

information identifying the print data corresponding to the input authentication

information (col. 19, lines 1-13); a display step of displaying, after the user inputs

authentication information, a list of print data corresponding to the input authentication

information on a display panel in accordance with the information transmitted in said

second transmission step (Fig. 19, col. 19, lines 1-13); and a control step of controlling

the printer to perform the printing of the print data after confirming that a print charge for

printing the selected print data is paid (col. 21, lines 15-32). Taniguchi et al. and

Arledge, Jr. et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of verifying

password authentication in printing systems. At the time of the invention, it would have

been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to display a list of print jobs after a

password has been entered and charge for printing. The motivation for doing so would

have been to protect information of the user by only providing the print job list after a

password has been entered and to collect a fee for a provided service . Therefore, it

would have been obvious to combine Arledge, Jr. et al. with Taniguchi et al. to obtain

the invention as specified in claims 16 and 22.

Referring to claim 17, Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose the request step of requesting

the selected print data of said information processing apparatus after confirming that the

print charge for printing the print data selected by the user is paid (col. 21, lines 47-57).

Referring to claim 18, Arledge, Jr. et al. disclose wherein the information identifying the print data is information indicating a name given to the print data corresponding to the input authentication information (col. 13, lines 15-23).

Referring to claim 19, Taniguchi et al. disclose a fourth transmission step of transmitting the information identifying the selected print data from the printer to the information processing apparatus (S608 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 11-15) and a fifth transmission step of transmitting the selected print data from the information processing apparatus to the printer based on the information transmitted in said fourth transmission step (S612 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 34-39).

Referring to claim 20, Taniguchi et al. disclose a second deletion step of deleting print data printed in said control step from the printer after the end of printing the print data (S615 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 49-52).
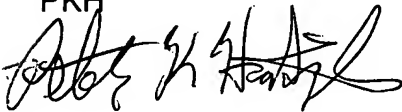
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter K. Huntsinger whose telephone number is (571)272-7435. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (571)272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PKH

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER